

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:KNBROWN

APPROVED BY C:HSONNENFELDT

EUR:JAARMITAGE

S/S: PSEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE IMMEDIATE

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E.O11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, CZ

SUBJECT: RUDE PRAVO ARTICLE ATTACKING SECRETARY

REFERENCE: PRAGUE 2271

1. EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE OFFICIAL DEMARCHE ON RUDE PRAVO
AUGUST 7 PERSONAL ATTACK ON SECRETARY AND ASSERTION THAT
"STATE DEPARTMENT AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY" MEMBERS
PREPARED FROLIK AND AUGUST FOR SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE
HEARINGS, AS PART OF ALLEGED SCHEME TO HEIGHTEN ANTI-
COMMUNIST SENTIMENT IN WESTERN EUROPE.

2. AMBASSADOR (OR CHARGE) SHOULD AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY
MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS TO ZANTOVSKY: (1) WE FIND IT VERY
DISTURBING THAT RUDE PRAVO, OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CZCP,
WOULD HARSHLY ATTACK U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE, CALLING HIM
IN EFFECT "LIAR." (2) THE SECRETARY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF
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STATE HAD NO ROLE IN PREPARING OR ENCOURAGING AUGUST AND

FROLIK TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTERNAL SECURITY. (3) THE MFA IS WELL AWARE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DOES NOT CONTROL THE ACTIVITIES OF CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES. (4) WE REGARD THIS PERSONAL ATTACK ON THE SECRETARY AND INTENTIONALLY MISLEADING JOURNALISM TO BE INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROFESSED DESIRE OF

PRESIDENT HUSAK AND OTHER CZECHOSLOVAK OFFICIALS TO IMPROVE THE BILATERAL ATMOSPHERE. SUCH MEDIA TREATMENT BRINGS INTO QUESTION THE SINCERITY OF THE GOC'S INTENTIONS.

3. REQUEST REPORT FOLLOWING DEMARCHE. ROBINSON

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